Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (amended) A ~~substantially pure~~ composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as $c\text{-}kit^{lo}$, $IL\text{-}7R\alpha^{+}$, lin^{-}; and wherein said progenitor cells are capable of giving rise to T cells, B cells and natural killer cells.

2. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are blast cells.

3. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as $Thy\text{-}1^{-}$.

4. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and are further characterized as $Sca\text{-}1^{lo}$.

5. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are further characterized as $CD43^{lo}$, HSA^{lo}, $CD45^{+}$ and $MEL\text{-}14^{-}$.

6. (original) A composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells according to Claim 1, wherein said cells are genetically modified to comprise an exogenous DNA vector.

7. (original) A method of enrichment for a composition of mammalian common lymphoid progenitor cells, wherein at least 95% of the cells in said composition are characterized as $c\text{-}kit^{lo}$, $IL\text{-}7R\alpha^{+}$, lin^{-}; and wherein said progenitor cells are capable of giving rise to T cells, B cells and natural killer cells, the method comprising:

combining reagents that specifically recognize $c\text{-}kit$, $IL\text{-}7R\alpha$ and lin markers with a sample of hematopoietic cells; and

selecting for those cells that are $c\text{-}kit^{lo}$, $IL\text{-}7R\alpha^{+}$, lin^{-}, to provide an enriched population of cells having lymphoid lineage progenitor activity.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is bone marrow.

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9. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said sample of hematopoietic cells is mobilized peripheral blood.

10. (original) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of selecting by size for blast cells.

11. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said cells are mouse cells, and further comprising the steps of:

combining reagents that specifically recognize Sca-1 with said sample of hematopoietic cells; and

selecting for those cells that are Sca-1^{lo}.

12-18 (canceled)